Children out of school

1439. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country has a whopping 26.8 million primary school age children out of the schools;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the country accounts for 23 per cent of the total global school children; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and by when these children would be given basic education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) No Sir. It is about 6 million children in primary school age out of school as per provisional data available for the year 2002-03.

(b) No, Sir. India accounts for 19.86% of the total global school children during the year 2001 as per the Education For All (E.F.A) Global Monitoring Report, 2005.

(c) Under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), a number of initiatives have been taken for the enrolment of out of school children including setting up of new primary/upper primary schools, Education Guarantee Scheme (EGS) centres, Alternative and Innovative Education (AIE) interventions and special drives for the enrolment of all eligible children, especially girls.

Kannada in Kendriya Vidyalayas

1440. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Karnatka Government has requested Government to teach Kannada as one subject in all the Kendriya Vidyalayas located in the State; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.